

## MAKING AN ESTATE PLAN

Preparing for your initial meeting with your Estate Planning Attorney

It is advisable that you seek the counsel of an experienced estate planning attorney to help you through the process of making an estate plan. In order to do the best possible job on your behalf, your attorney needs information about you and your assets. At your first meeting with your attorney, you should be prepared to provide, as applicable, the following information:

### NAMES AND ADDRESSES

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Nos.: (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

(Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### ESTATE PLAN

Do you have an existing Will(s)?  Yes  No

If yes, provide your attorney with a copy).

### FAMILY INFORMATION

Marital Status:

- Husband and Wife
- Unmarried, Widow or Widower
- Unmarried, Divorced
- Married Person Establishing Separate Trust

Children:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Indicate Whether Adopted or from a Previous Marriage</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Any deceased children?  Yes  No

If Yes, Name of Deceased Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Did this deceased child leave any children?  Yes  No

Name of Deceased Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Did this deceased child leave any children?  Yes  No

Have any children received an advance on their inheritance or are any children financially indebted to you?  Yes  No

Is there any reason to treat your children other than equally? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you and your spouse U.S. Citizens? You  Yes  No Spouse  Yes  No

Are any of the children financially irresponsible?  Yes  No

Are any of the children under a disability?  Yes  No

Have you been married previously?  Yes  No

If any child should predecease a parent, should his/her share pass through to his/her children?  
 Yes  No

If Yes to the above, please indicate grandchildren, if any:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Parents</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

In the event of your death, who should be guardian of your minor children? (a guardian has physical and legal control over your children until they reach the age of eighteen)

First choice:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Second choice:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Other Pertinent Family Information or Explanation of Above Items:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## TRUST

Do you wish to have a trust established for the benefit of your spouse and/or children?  
 Yes  No

If yes to the above, please indicate who the trustee(s) should be. (A trustee manages the assets for your children or other beneficiaries until they reach specified ages. If you do not establish a trust, children inherit at age eighteen. You may name an individual, bank or trust company, or both.)

First choice:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate trustee:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Terms of distribution (education, marriage, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Ages(s) for distribution to children from the trust (Ex.: 1/3 at age twenty-one, 1/3 at age twenty-five, 1/3 at age thirty) \_\_\_\_\_

## PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Who should be Personal Representative ("executor") of your estate? (A Personal Representative is responsible for probating your will, paying your debts, collecting your assets, and settling your estate.)

First choice (Spouse is normally named first): \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Alternate:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## SPECIFIC BEQUESTS

Do you wish to make reference in your will to a separate list of any specific bequests of items of personal property that you wish to give to children or others? The advantage of such a list is that it may be changed without changing your will.  Yes  No

Do you wish to make any charitable bequests?  Yes  No

Do you have a safe deposit box? If so, where? \_\_\_\_\_

Does anyone else have access to your box? \_\_\_\_\_

## OTHER ESTATE PLANNING TOOLS

Are you interested in preparing a Power of Attorney granting another person the power to act on your behalf to manage your assets and pay your bills if you become incompetent or unable to sign your name?  Yes  No

Are you interested in preparing a Health Care Declaration ("Living Will") stating your preference for health care if you are in a terminal condition?  Yes  No

If you are executing a Living Will or Health Care Declaration, please give your primary physician's name and address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any special requests regarding funeral or burial instructions or organ donation? If so, this is best handled by a Letter of Instruction or other statement from your will to your family or other responsible person.  Yes  No

Do you have a financial planner, investment advisor, or insurance agent?  Yes  No If Yes to the above, please give name and address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## INFORMATION REGARDING ASSETS

Married Couples:

Husband has separate assets.  Wife has separate assets.  All assets are held jointly.

1. Estimated net worth of estate: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. Cash or cash=equivalent accounts held at financial institutions:  
[ ] Checking and savings accounts, or certificates of deposit, with banks, savings and loans, or credit unions. How many different financial institutions? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Investments (check all that apply):

[ ] Cash or money fund accounts, or certificates of deposit with stock broker firms .  
How many different broker firms? \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Stocks, bonds, and mutual funds where your broker holds the certificates and sends you periodic statements showing your account balance.

How many different stock brokerage firms? \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Mutual funds where you deal directly with the issuing company rather than through your stock broker. How many different mutual fund companies? \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Stocks and bonds (other than U.S. Savings Bonds) where you hold the certificates in your possession. How many different companies/issuers? \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] U.S. Savings Bonds.

[ ] Treasury bills or other government securities.

[ ] . Limited partnerships. How many limited partnerships? \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Oil. and gas royalty or working interests. How many? \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Oil and gas mineral rights in land. How many parcels of land? \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Other securities [describe] \_\_\_\_\_

4. Retirement plans:

[ ] Individual retirement accounts (IRAs) , Keogh, or other individual plans providing tax deferral for deposits and income. How many different financial institutions hold IRA accounts for:

Husband \_\_\_\_\_ Wife \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Employer-provided profit sharing, retirement, or other benefit plans:

How many different plans for: Husband \_\_\_\_\_ Wife \_\_\_\_\_

5. Complete this section if you own real estate.

[ ] Personal residence located in state of \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Other property. How many different parcels of real estate do you own, other than your personal residence? \_\_\_\_\_

In what state(s) are these parcels located? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you purchasing any of the above properties on a contract for deed?

[ ] Yes [ ] No. If Yes, provide details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Complete this section if you are engaged in business.

Do you own a business, or are you a partner in a business? [ ] Yes [ ] No

If Yes, complete the following:

- Business is organized as a corporation. How many corporations? \_\_\_\_  
How many corporations are subchapter S corporations?
- Business is organized as a partnership. How many partnerships? \_\_\_\_
- Business is a sole proprietorship. How many different firms? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Receivables: If any money is owed to you, as payments on contracts, where you have sold a business, as payments on obligations secured by real estate, or where you have loaned money to someone and you hold a note, indicate each type of indebtedness that you hold.

- Promissory note(s) secured by real estate. Amount(s) owed: \_\_\_\_\_
- Installment contract(s) of sale of personal property. Amount(s) owed: \_\_\_\_\_
- Unsecured promissory note(s). Amount(s) owed: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Life Insurance Policies: Please indicate the name of the person insured, the name of the insurance company, the face amount of the policy, and the type of policy.

<u>Name of Insured</u>	<u>Insurance Company</u>	<u>Face Amount</u>	<u>Type of Policy</u>
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

9. Annuities: Please indicate the name of the annuitant and the type of annuity. Do not list annuities under which no benefits are payable after the death of the annuitant.

Regular annuities payable for guaranteed minimum term or amount:

_____
_____

Tax-deferred annuities:

_____
_____

10. Personal property other than automobiles, trucks, boats, and trailers:

- Household furniture and appliances
- Collections, art, antiques, valuable jewelry
- Automobiles
- Boats
- Recreational vehicles
- Motor home
- Business machinery and equipment
- Personal equipment and tools
- Farm or ranch machinery and equipment (other than general household tools)
- Livestock



## QUESTIONS

(Make a list of pertinent questions to ask your attorney)

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